a man applies for sick leave and if he does not produce the medical certificate, that will have to be called for. Such preliminaries naturally take time and it so happened that there was some delay in getting these preliminaries done and putting the necessary notification in the Gazette in making the appointment.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Even with all that after entering on leave there has been unnecessary delay for about 6 days or 10 days and so it is both in the office of the Director of Public Instruction and the Huzur Secretariat. Can all this unnecessary delay be avoided?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is a matter of opinion that the delays are unnecessary. I can assure the Hon'ble Member in the first place that no delay which is avoidable has occurred. In the second place even while this appointment was pending, work was not at a standstill. There are other members of the staff who have some leisure which they can utilise for taking these boys; so that the inference that these boys were doing nothing while the appointment was in the process of intimation, was wrong.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether an officer can enter on leave before the leave is ssnctioned.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* What actually happened was this. This was sick leave and he entered upon leave in anticipation of sanction. In cases where the application is not supported by proper valid medical certificate, of course, it will be refused. But here, they had satisfactorily proved that the grant of leave was necessary and the man had no option in the matter.

QUARTERS FOR THE SISTERS WORKING IN THE MAHARAJA'S HOSPITAL

226. **Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state whether any quarters for the Sisters working in the Maharaja's Hospital, Mattancheri, have been built as contemplated?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the building of quarters for the Sisters of the Maharaja's Hospital, Mattancheri, was not agreed to?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They have quarters now.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether that was not agreed to?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I do not think there was any definite agreement. Government would consider the question of puting up suitable quarters for sisters.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Have the Government seen the visitors' book regarding the quarters?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They have read them. It is conceded that quarters are needed. Early steps would be taken to see what could be done in the matter.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are the Government aware that the quarters that they have is dingy?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Most of the houses in Mattancheri are like that.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* But this is worse. It is very inadequate particularly for European people to be scorched in the sun. You agree.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Agreed.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Chief Medical Officer be pleased to take a little more steps to see that quarters are built as early as possible?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* That will be looked into.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I take it that the Chief Medical Officer is satisfied that these sisters can tolerably manage to be where they are at least during the war time?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I am afraid that the quarters are not at all adequate for them, and early steps will be taken to accommodate them in proper buildings.

BUS FARES—EXHORBITANT RATES OF

227. **Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there had been complaints from bus passengers against exhorbitant collection of bus fares, in defiance of Notification No. 2 (Judicial Department), dated 19th August 1943, published in Part I, of the Gazette dated 5th Chingam 1119;

(*b*) if so, the names and addresses of the petitioners and the names of bus services against whom such complaints have been made;

(*c*) whether any action was taken against such bus owners;

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